July 25, 1791

Cash

To Coppers, for 4 Casks wt. 813 3/4 lbs sold
E. Doolittle @ 11d pr. lb. 37 5 11

This constituted a sale of 39,060 Connecticut coppers in mint condition at over 52 to the shilling which was less than one-third of their original circulating value. ~~this was~~ It constituted over one half of the ~~copper~~ States 5% share of the copper mint's production which the State had been unable or neglected to put into circulation through normal transactions. Connecticut coppers had reached their lowest ebb.

746

813.75
406875
16275
39060.00

760

~~There appears to have been~~ the ~~difficulties~~ problems of John Lawrence as Treasurer in handling constantly fluctuating currencies and security interest and taxes during and after the Revolutionary War were finally untangled in May, 1792 and a mutual discharge settled the matter.

depreciated paper was alleged to have been accepted at too high a value in payments and too great a discount granted in making ~~payments~~ disbursements.

The mint operations naturally would fall ~~fall~~ under matters to be investigated because the payments of the 5% share to the State was in arrears, and the coppers were circulating ~~passing~~ at a discount from the lawfully established rate of 18 to the shilling

The most interesting ~~transfer~~ numismatically entries in these complex accounts covered the accumulation of coppers ~~turned~~ constituting the remainder ~~what remained~~ of the States 5% share of the mint production ~~as it was entered~~, the detail being entered into the Treasurer's Waste Book on June 26, 1789 as follows:

"Received of John Lawrence Esq. late Treasurer 4 Casks said to contain 813 3/4 lb Coppers for which I have signed duplicate Recpts - viz -

Copy

The assembly on Dec 29, 1790 authorized this coin to be sold or exchanged for state obligations at the new circulating rate of 24 to the shilling, but there were no takers. Finally the Treasurer was authorized in May 1791 to dispose the coppers ~~at the best price obtainable~~ to best advantage.
The following entry of the sale of these uncirculated coins for junk copper value makes a numismatist wince

Copy.

~~There was no specific date~~ The period when ~~The date of the depreciation~~ ~~of~~ Connecticut coppers depreciated from 18 to the shilling to a lower value ~~26⅔ to the shilling~~ seems to have ~~. It apparently~~ occurred ~~gradually~~ ~~during the~~ ~~late at different places~~ ~~gradually~~ during the ~~last part of 1788 and the early part of 1789;~~ ~~close of 1788.~~ closes of ~~December~~ 1788. ~~— January 1789~~ ~~period~~. ~~[illegible] February 11, 1789 entry [illegible]~~ John Lawrence had resigned on January 14, 1789 and ~~the~~ as new Treasurer gave Lawrence the ~~following entry~~ receipts for coppers which Lawrence had received during his tenure in payment of ~~the State~~ taxes ~~due~~ to the state, as indicated by the following entry on ~~the~~ February 11, 1789 in the Conn Treas Waste Book:

Gave John Lawrence Esq late Treas ~~Discharged~~

From this entry we see that the bulk of the copper coin ~~—~~ had recently been accepted at par and only a small amount at 24 to the Shilling. By Febry 7. 1789 the new Treasurer ~~accepted~~ acceptance of a payment from the coiners at the rate of 26⅔ to the Shilling ~~occurred during that time in 1790~~ shows that the depreciation had ~~gradually~~ was recognized ~~[illegible]~~ by then.

there are many varieties of
since ^ coppers
~~and the~~ ^ ~~coppers dated 1787~~ ~~are~~ ~~were coined in~~ year
dated 1788 ~~are~~ ~~and the~~ ^ ~~times more than in any other~~
~~great profusion~~ are × quite
~~It is~~ ~~questionable~~ the June 1, 1787 termination date seems strange.
there are × times the number of varieties of
In addition ~~are~~ coppers dated 1787 ~~are~~ ~~in the~~ than any other year
as a whole more common
(1785, 1786 or 1788) and ~~there are~~ 1787 coppers ^ are by far ~~the most profuse~~
~~[illegible]~~ Operations took place ^ during 1787
than any other date. ~~A production~~ for only 5 months ~~in~~

There was therefore a natural
~~such enormous production appears~~, unlikely all of coppers dating 1788 ~~production~~ were secretly
speculation that ~~some of~~ the coppers dated 1787 ~~[illegible]~~ and the ^ report required by the franchise.
produced possibly to avoid the payment of ~~[illegible]~~ 5% of the state ^
A second problem in the April 7, 1789 ^ arose by virtue of
with the permission of
the finding ~~statement~~ that ^ the company for the coining of coppers ~~[illegible]~~
~~leased said Grant~~ "sd ~~Grant~~ grant ~~and~~ & ~~Apparatus for Coining Coppers~~
~~to Mark Leavenworth Esqr. Isaac Baldwin and William Leavenworth~~
has made
~~for Six Weeks permitted~~ Maj'r Eli Leavenworth ~~to make~~ blank Coppers
the Last fall had them stamped in New york With various
impressions — Some few of them With an Impression Similar
to the Impression of the Coppers Coined by the Aforementioned
~~Company~~ Compy". These coppers so struck have not been
identified.

~~The feeling that.~~

~~Knowing that there was a second~~

It ~~There~~ is also known that there were two ~~mint~~ houses with
the home of Samuel
minting machinery in New Haven, ~~the~~ one next to ^ Mr. Broome ~~[illegible]~~ (father in law of James Jarvis who obtained the Fugio copper franchise) ~~house~~ in Morris Cove

a neighbor ~~who lived a very short distance from the Mint~~
Henry personally
Yet ^ Mr. Meigs ~~of New York~~ reported that he ^ saw the
next to Mr. Broome's house
mint ^ in operation in 1788 and that it had been in operation
"some considerable time before that".

and the other about 2 miles inland ~~town~~ at Westville.

Yet the ~~mint~~ April 7, 1789 refers only to ~~one~~ the "Works" or
"Apparatus" as one place of production and states that
no other coinage took place there.

~~The complication in keeping the Treasurer's records~~
~~Another complication involving Connecticut coppers to some~~

The accounts of John Lawrence, Treasurer of the State of Connecticut had not been audited ~~[illegible]~~ from 1778 to 1788 and in May, 1788 the General Assembly authorized such action. The auditors ~~[illegible]~~ reported to the General Assembly in January 1789 "that there are several Difficulties and Embarrassments that obstruct the Progress of a Just and equitable settlement". this included difficulty in segregating receipts and disbursements in Specie ~~[illegible]~~ from ~~[illegible]~~ those in ~~of Bill Accounts arising from~~ discounted state securities ~~[illegible]~~ ~~depreciated paper [illegible] was accepted at par~~ and ~~after noting that~~ and the General Assembly ~~[illegible]~~ after noting errors and erasures in the books forced the resignation of John Lawrence on January 14, 1789. ~~[illegible]~~ Ezra Stiles, president of Yale ~~expressed it~~ noted in his diary that the records "are found not in the best state". ~~[illegible]~~

~~[illegible]~~ Jedidiah Huntington on ~~[illegible]~~ becoming Treasurer gave ~~[illegible]~~ to John Lawrence certain receipts which ~~in detail~~ ~~to~~ contain enlightening detail as to ~~refer~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~the~~ ~~circulation~~ of Connecticut Coppers and other depreciated coins such as:

Received of John Lawrence Esqr. late Treasurer, money arising on the Interest of the April 3d & July 1 Tax 1782

1381-10-10

~~gave my Rect for the above Sum~~ ~~[illegible]~~
gave my Rect for the above Sum part received in Coppers at the Rate of 3 for 2d — and part in nominal Quarters of Dollars, worth only 1-2½ each — the loss of which money to be charged to the State.

The cash in the treasury was £ 3292-4-5½ of which there was one group of coppers valued at £19-2-2. ~~[illegible]~~ The records showed that 6678 ~~[illegible]~~ coppers in that group were ~~[illegible]~~ paid in at the official rate of 18 to the shilling and 268 were acceptable at ~~[illegible]~~ the lower value of 24 to the shilling. ~~[illegible]~~

~~a balance of the cash was agreed to in the receipt of the new Treasurer~~
~~[illegible]~~

CONNECTICUT TREASURER'S MINT RECORDS

DATES	STATE'S 5% SHARE OF TOTAL COINAGE						INDICATED TOTAL PRODUCTION				
	WT. in lbs of coppers	No. of Pieces at 48 per lb	Credits in Connecticut £	s	d	Source	WT in lbs of coppers	No. of Pieces at 48 per lb.	Official Value at 18 coppers per shilling £	s	d
10/4/86 as of 6/1/86	[112]	5376	[14	18	8]	Samuel Bishop & others	2240	107,520	298	13	4
5/18/87	120 5/16		[16	0	11]	James Jarvis per Jeremiah Platt					
	93 12/16		[12	10	0]	" " " " "					
	48 2/16		[6	8	4½]	James Hillhouse					
	48 2/16		[6	8	4½]	Abel Buell per Jeremiah Platt					
	310 5/16	14895	[41	7	8]		6206¼	297,900	827	13	4
11/7/87	[3 kegs 540]	25920	72	0	0	Jeremiah Platt per Stephen Ford	10800	518,400	1440	0	0
5/31/88	[1 keg 273¾]	13140	36	10	0	Jeremiah Platt	[5475]	262,800	730	0	0
2/6/89	[150]	7200	[13	13	4*]	James Hillhouse	3000	144,000	400	0	0
Treasury Entries	1386 1/16	66531	178	9	8		27721¼	1,330,620	3696	6	8
Due under 4/7/89 report	[61 2/16**]	2934	[8	3	0**]		1222½	58 680	163	0	0
Adjustment for rounding out					−2		¼	12			8
Discount on 2/6/89 payment*			6	6	8*						
4/7/89 Report	[1447 3/16]	69465	[192	19	2]		[28944]	1,389,312	3859	7	4

Notes:

Items bracketed are actually shown on Treasury records. Other figures are calculated [illegible] those entries.

* Coppers not delivered, but revalued at about 22d per lb of copper or 26⅓ coppers per shilling and paid for in current money on that basis.

** No record of payment of any part of amount due under April 7, 1789 report.

Dies listed by Miller

			Av
1785	Obv	21	20½
	Rev	20	
1786	Obv	21	20½
	Rev	20	
1787	Obv	129	126½
1787	Rev	124	
1788	Obv	28	24
1788	Rev	20	
			191½

there are some overlaps

112# is 1785 + 1786 = 107,500 pieces ~~3~~ or 2500 ✓ coppers per pair of die (42½ dies)

940# is 1787

For 1787 + 1788 148½ pr for 1,281,812 = 8650 coppers per pr of dies

190½ for 1,389,312 = 7300 coppers per pr of dies.

Dies for Connect Coppers

		Miller list	Ryder correction	Duplication	Elimin	New finds	Net total	Dies per year
1785	Obv	21	1	00	1		21	21
1785	Rev	20	2		1		21	
1786	Obv	21	2	1100	11		19	$21\frac{1}{2}$
1786	Rev	20	5		1		24	
1787	Obv	129	3	000110000	1	11	131	$128\frac{1}{2}$
1787	Rev	124	1			1	126	
1788	Obv	28		111111	1		20	$19\frac{1}{2}$
1788	Rev	20			1		19	
		373	14	11	8	3	381	$190\frac{1}{2}$

Die Duplications:

1785 Obv 7^2 8 = 1786 4^2 15^{14}

1786 Obv 7 5^3 = 1787 Obv 29(1), 7

1787 Obv 1, 11^1, 12^2, 32^5, 32(9), 32(8), 50 = 1788 Obverses 1, 7, 8, 16(1), 16(2), 16^7, 17,

Connec

Hartford — Amer Mercury 7/12/84 — 12/26/20 Yale
Hartford Conn Courant 1764-1820
micro film at Univ Ill, Newberry, Mo Univ, State Hist Soc Wisconsin (Madison)

Litchfield Monitor — 1784-1807 no complete file

(Middletown) Middlesex Gazette 1785-1820 Con Hist Soc.

(New Haven) Conn Journal 1767-1820 Yale
State Hist Soc of Wisc has micro

New Haven Gazette + Conn Magazine 1786-9 2/16/86-6/18/89
Says it has index of first three volumes
negative University Microfilm, Ann Arbor, Michigan
Josiah Meigs publisher

Conn Hist Soc has original
Am Antiq Soc. " " almost complete to 12/25/88
N.Y. Hist Soc " " " " to 12/25/88
Yale. to 1/1/89

New London - Conn Gazette 1763-1820
Conn Hist Soce best file
micro film ~~at~~ neg at Calif Univ Berkley.
(Wagner College I believe has positive)

Norwich packet 1773-1802 Am Antiq Soc.

New York Daily Advertiser 1785-1806
Daily, not complete. 1/2/86 to 4/20/96 in NY Hist Soc

N.Y. Gazetteer 1783-1787
not complete

NY Indep Journal 1783-1788

NY Journal 1784-93

NY Morning Post 1783-92
Am Antiq Soc.

N.Y. Packet 1783-92

Poughkeepsie { Country Journal then Poughkeepsie Journal
Journal (weekly) Oct 13, 1785-1860

Micro Photo

Penn Journal & Weekly Advertiser (weekly) 1742-1793
neg. Pa Hist
pos at Wisconsin Hist

Penn Packet Sept 27, 1783-1790 daily
Pa Hist Soc has neg.
Univ of N.C. has positive

There is some evidence that ~~[illegible]~~ certain Connecticut coppers were produced by other than the authorized mint. ~~Abel Buel, a silver [illegible]~~

It has been shown that James F. Atlee ~~in the [illegible]~~ in making the dies for the bust-type Vermont Coppers used the same punches as he had used in ~~also made~~ ~~imitation counterfeiting dies for~~ imitation English halfpence and that he had used the same letter and number punches in making dies for 1786 Conn coppers Miller ——— ——— ———. ~~He made some of the dies for New Jersey coppers and the other of~~ ~~[illegible]~~ and the 1787 Miller 1-A, 1(4)-WW.

Abel Buel, as a partner in the Conn mint used his own hub and letter ~~and~~ number punches in making the great ~~[illegible]~~ quantity of the dies for the Conn coppers.

As to the coins themselves it is well known that the obverse of 1787 Conn Miller 1-A was combined with the reverse of Vermont Ryder 25, ~~[illegible]~~, and imitation halfpenny Ryder 31 to make Conn 1788 ~~[illegible]~~ 1-I.

It is also clear ~~[illegible]~~ from the progression of die breaks from examination of 1788 Conn Reverse D that it was first combined with an imitation English ½d obverse, then ~~with~~ ~~[illegible]~~ with 1788 Miller 2 and finally with 1788 Conn obv ~~[illegible]~~ 16 which was the same as 1787 . No imitation English ½ dies could lawfully be used at the Conn mint ~~[illegible]~~

The horned bust style on the 1787 5-B1 5-J is found ~~[illegible]~~ on Nova Eboracs, with [illegible] etc.

	Samuel Bishop	1/4	James Hillhouse	1/4	John Goodrich ~~Leavenworth~~	1/4	Joseph Hopkins	1/4	~~Jonathan~~ Pierpont Edwards	—	Jonathan Ingersal	—	Abel Buel	—	Elias Shipman	—	James Jarvis	—	Mark Leavenworth, Isaac Baldwin & William Leavenworth	—
10/20/85 11/12/~~85~~ 1785	12½	1/8	12½	1/8	12½	1/8	12½	1/8	12½	1/8	12½	1/8	12½	1/8	12½	1/8		—		—
2/1/86		1/8		1/8	18¾	3/16		1/8		1/8	6¼	1/16		1/8		1/8		—		=
3/1/86		1/8		1/8	25	1/4	6¼	1/16		1/8		1/16		1/8		1/8		—		—
4/86		1/8		1/8		1/4		1/16	0	—	0	—		1/8	0	—	31¼	5/16		—
11/17/86		1/8		1/8	12½	1/8		1/16		—		—		1/8		—		5/16	12½	1/8
1/87		1/8		1/8	18¾	3/16	0	—		—		—		1/8		—		5/16		1/8
6/1/87	0	—		1/8	6¼	1/16		—		—		—		1/8		—	56¼	9/16		1/8
4/7/89	0	-	12½	1/8	6¼	1/16	0	—	0	—	0	-	12½	1/8	0	—	56¼	9/16	12½	1/8

The delivery of £41-7-8 in coppers to the State Treasurer on May 18, 1787 was only a partial discharge of the £70-1-8 due ~~in accordance with~~ according to the inspectors' report of May 9, 1787. Since the next payment was made November 7, 1787 a delinquency in the account for at least six months is evident. It can also be noted that when the General Assembly ~~of~~ Connecticut ~~closed its meeting~~ in New Haven [illegible] on January 29, 1789 after ordering an ~~the~~ investigation of the mint ~~operation~~ [illegible] no time was wasted by the franchise holders in making a payment in Hartford on February 6, 1789. All other payments had been made in May or November when six months reports were turned in. The February 6, 1789 payment was not in coppers as the law provided but in cash — indicating that it had not ~~been~~ arisen [illegible] from an amount due under a ~~[illegible]~~ contemporary report of newly coined coppers. ~~[illegible] production of coppers [illegible] a report covering [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]~~ The ~~sudden~~ February 6, 1789 payment ~~was~~ appears therefore to cover the delinquency then existing in the account and was provoked by the investigation. The final report of April 9, 1789 shows ~~a delinquency of £14-9-6 which when adjusted corrected in accordance with the figures on the heretofore shown still leaves~~ a delinquency of £8-3 which sum apparently was never paid.

Conn dies of Atlee origin

Defective small C
flat top

1786 1-A ✓ 2(1)-A [illegible] ✓
1786 2(2)-D(2) ✓ 3-D(1) ✓
1787 1(1)-A 2(1)-[illegible] D(3)
1(4)-WW ✓ 3-D(4)
1(1)-VV
1788 1-I

1-A has defective A
2(1)-A has defective A
1(1)-A " " "
1(4)-WW " " "
" " "
1-I

met 1(3)-L
no 1787 2-B
not 1787 1(2)-C

3-G Same hub as 1787 Brittania on [illegible]
52-G " " " 1778 Obv.
} domed hair

1788 1-I

3(1) Same hub as Vt 27, 1788 imitation, Ryder 13, Geo III combined with D
3(2)

He could not have coined other coppers ~~under the with the inspection~~ without trying to conceal his activity.

~~The April 9, 1789 report stated, "We further find that Abel Bewel has Gone to Europe that previous to his Departure he gave his Son Benjamin Bewel liberty to coin Coppers Which Bussiness he is now pursuing and has Just began to Stamp them." The question of What coins he was minting has remained unanswered. It seems that though There is a logical conclusion By a study of the coins~~ Certainly they were Connecticut coppers or the ~~franchise~~ right to coin them would not have been ~~the subject of~~ transferred to him by his father who only held a 1/8th share at that time, the other partners were no longer interested, or the matter would have been referred to as ~~as their~~ a company rather than ~~matter~~ a personal enterprise; the ~~coins were~~ ~~produ~~ dies remaining unused or unbroken were the only available ones. To buy old copper, to heat it, roll it into sheets, to cut ~~planchets~~ flans and then to mint it was not ~~to~~ unprofitable at this time since the February 6, 1789 payment of the state showed that 26 1/3 coppers were circulating for a shilling instead of 18.

A study of the 1788 Connecticut coppers shows that Miller 3(1)-B(1), 3(2)-B(2), 4(1)-B(1), 4(1)-K, 4(2)-R, 5-B(2), 10-C 12(2)-C and perhaps others are ~~often found~~ struck over Nova Constellatio coppers. Conn coins are ~~not known~~ ~~found overstruck~~ over other coins. If ~~those cop~~ Nova Constellatio coppers could be bought at a low price in New York or elsewhere and recoined as Connecticut coppers for circulation at a higher price then there is a reason for Benjamin Buel's coinage. ~~The old partnership~~ Some of the Nova Constellatios which are overstruck were uncirculated when overstruck. Apparently a quantity of them was bought for quick conversion into Conn coppers. ~~William Buel~~ The franchise to coin coppers was revoked in May 1789 effective June 20 1789 and thus Buel had adequate opportunity to restamp many coppers. It could be argued

1787 Conn 13-O is over a Nova
16(3)-N over Mass.